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GENERAL AND COMPLETE DISARMAMENT

Transparency in armaments

Report of the Secretary-General

Addendum

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AUSTRALIA

[Original: English]

[11 August 1992]

1. Much of the material provided in relation to the previous resolution is also relevant here. However additional material is provided in relation to the specific requests contained in General Assembly resolution 46/36 L as follows:

Paragraph 9: Register of Conventional Arms

2. The Australian Government supports efforts to promote openness and transparency in military activities, such as the Register of Conventional Arms established under resolution 46/36 L. We look forward to receiving the report of the group of experts, who are currently working on the issues pertinent to the Register, to be presented to the General Assembly pursuant to this resolution.

Paragraph 10: Information on imports, exports and military holdings

3. The issue of reporting on imports and exports of arms was addressed in response to paragraph 9.

4. Attachment I,* an excerpt from the Department of Defence publication Defence Report 1990-91, specifies the range of military equipment held by the Australian Defence Forces as at 30 June 1991.

5. The excerpt from Defence Report 1990-91 (attachment J*) is enclosed for background information on general military procurements.

6. In monetary terms, overall Australian national procurements totalled some $A 3.51 billion, or about 37 per cent of total defence outlays in 1990/91, but this figure includes substantial projects which are not included in the categories of arms specified in the Register.

7. In regard specifically to Australian procurement through national production one warship, the guided missile frigate HMAS Melbourne, was commissioned during 1991. Procurements will become evident through comparing military holdings over time. For instance, HMAS Melbourne will eventually appear as guided missile frigate number five.

8. On the basis of available background information, during 1991 Australia did not import any weapons systems in the categories specified in the arms register.

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* These documents are available for consultation in the Office for Disarmament Affairs.

CHAD

[Original: French]

[14 August 1992]

1. Upon gaining its independence on 11 August 1960, Chad immediately signed defence and technico-military aid agreements with France, the former colonial Power. As a result, France continued to provide logistic support in the form of weapons and military equipment to the units of the national army of Chad, with careful follow-up.

2. The country has experienced many conflicts and difficulties since the early years of independence, and, as a result, the military situation today is no longer the same.

3. In reviewing the resolutions adopted by the General Assembly, it is difficult for Chad to provide information on arms imports or exports. Chad has never imported arms on an official basis, since they have been supplied to Chad by friendly countries, either in return for remuneration or free of charge. Thus, each Government that came to power in the country had its own weapons policy. That is how, following the coup d'état in 1975, an amended defence agreement with France and the multidirectional policy of the Government enabled Chad to acquire weapons and combat vehicles from the former Soviet Union.

4. From 1980 to 1982, the Government of National Union of Transition, through its various factions, brought in a substantial amount of weapons, over which it has turned out to be difficult to exercise control, with each faction head jealously guarding his own cache.

5. Then, from 1983 to 1990, the Government of the Third Republic received a large amount of arms assistance from the United States of America and France, in addition to arms retrieval from the Libyans during the fighting of 1986-1987.

6. Since December 1990, Chad has not officially imported arms; however, it has sold a few Albatross aircraft wrecks, taken from the Libyans in 1987.

7. The weapons stockpile of the State of Chad is, therefore, made up of weapons provided as direct aid by friendly countries and weapons appropriated from the enemy. There is no national legislation on the exporting and importing of arms. None the less, with the recent reorganization of the Chadian national army, the Government will have a fairly clear picture of its strength, in terms of both men and weaponry.

COLOMBIA

[Original: Spanish]

[30 September 1992]

In a note verbale addressed to the Secretary-General, dated 30 September 1992, Colombia provided information regarding both international arms transfers and transparency in armaments. That information is contained in the report of the Secretary-General on international arms transfers (A/47/314/Add.1), submitted under agenda item 61 (i).

LITHUANIA

[Original: English]

[18 August 1992]

In a note verbale addressed to the Secretary-General, dated 18 August 1992, Lithuania provided information regarding both international arms transfers and transparency in armaments. That information is contained in the report of the Secretary-General on international arms transfers (A/47/314/Add.1), submitted under agenda item 61 (i).